

REMARKS

The above-noted cancellation of claims 1-30, and substitution of new claims 31-72, is respectfully submitted prior to initiation of the prosecution of this application in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. It is noted that during the International Phase of this application, applicant had filed an amendment pursuant to Article 19 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. However, as no English translation of the Article 19 amendment has been supplied, it is understood that such Article 19 amendment has not been entered in this application. Thus, the present preliminary amendment uses claim numbers beginning with claim 31, the first number after the originally filed claims. The present preliminary amendment presents the same claims as present in the non-entered Article 19 amendment, except that the present preliminary amendment presents such claims in numerical order, in accordance with U.S. practice.

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that this amendment now be entered, and that prosecution on the merits of this application now be initiated. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe such action can be taken, it is respectfully requested that he telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any objections which he may have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge applicant's Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

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